Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A separator for axial actuators including two positioner rings comprising at least three pairs of spiral raceways each movable contrary to the other, the separator comprising:

at least three spacers positioned circumferentially about a given axis and at least spirally configured and interconnected, each spacer having a first end and a second end, the first end of each spacer being axially spaced from the second end of an adjacent spacer with each spacer configured to be positioned within a respective one of the pairs of spiral ~~to comply with the shape of the~~ raceways ~~in reducing the friction between said positioner rings~~, whereby rotation of one positioner ring results in axial motion of the other positioner ring.

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2. (Original) The separator as set forth in claim 1 wherein said spacers are made of a friction-reducing material.

3. (Currently Amended) The separator as set forth in claim 2, ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least three spacers are defined by

a) three spiral surfaces each describing a circular arc of ~~approx.~~ approximately 120° ~~in roughly the~~ and having a width substantially equal to a given width of said raceways and

b) at least one cylindrical sleeve,

c) whereby said spiral surfaces are secured to ~~the~~ an inner or outer circumference of said at least one cylindrical sleeve.

4. (Currently Amended) The separator as set forth in claim 2, ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least three spacers are defined by

a) three spiral surfaces each describing a circular arc of ~~approx.~~ approximately 120° ~~in roughly the~~ and having a width substantially equal to a given width of said raceways and

b) two cylindrical concentric sleeves differing in diameter,

c) whereby said spiral surfaces are secured between said cylindrical sleeves.

5. (Currently Amended) The separator as set forth in claim 2 ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least three spacers are defined by three spirally ascending spiral surfaces each describing a circular arc of ~~approx.~~ approximately 120° ~~in roughly the~~ and having a width substantially equal to a given width of said raceways, and whereby an axial heel extends between each spacer first end and the adjacent spacer second end ~~whereby each spiral surface is connected at its upper end to the lower end of the adjoining spiral surface~~.

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6. (Currently Amended) The separator as set forth in claim 1 wherein said at least three spacers comprise

a) a cage ~~complying to said~~ including three spirally ascending spiral surfaces each describing a circular arc of ~~approx.~~ approximately 120° ~~in roughly the~~ and having a width substantially equal to a given width of said raceways,

b) said cage comprising rolling elements conventionally connected thereto.

7. (Currently Amended) The separator as set forth in claim 6 comprising

a) at least one cylindrical sleeve,

b) whereby said spiral surfaces are secured to ~~the~~ an inner or outer circumference of said at least one cylindrical sleeve.

8. (Orginal) The separator as set forth in claim 6 comprising

a) two cylindrical concentric sleeves differing in diameter,

b) whereby said spiral surfaces are secured between said cylindrical sleeves.

9. (Currently Amended) The separator as set forth in claim 6 wherein an axial heel extends between each spacer first end and the adjacent spacer second end ~~each spiral surface is connected at its upper end to the lower end of the adjoining spiral surface~~.

10. (Original) The separator as set forth in claim 2 wherein said friction-reducing material is a bronze alloy or a plastics material.

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11. (Original) The separator as set forth in claim 6 wherein said rolling elements are rollers or needles.